

TAPR's packetRadio



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After returning home from Hamvention 30 years ago, I wrote the following for ARRL's packet radio newsletter Gateway:

TAPR UNVEILS packetRADIO AT DAYTON

The Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) booth at the Dayton Hamvention was buzzing with the unveiling of a number of new packet-radio products including prototypes of the TAPR "packetRADIO," a low-cost (approximately \$250) two-stage VHF transceiver designed exclusively for packet-radio applications. TAPR's packetRADIO features 9600 baud FSK and 1200 baud AFSK 2-meter

operation with 25 watts output, five crystal-controlled channels and a transmit-receive turnaround time of less than one millisecond (ms).

The working prototypes displayed at the Hamvention were the result of a six-week crash project by TAPR. Beta-testing will begin soon with the radios expected to be available to the general public in approximately six months.

TAPR's packetRADIO generated a lot of excitement at Hamvention in 1989, but the project was never completed and was eventually cancelled to the disappointment of many packeteers including myself.

Fast-forward 30 years...

While cleaning out the TAPR warehouse, John Koster, W9DDD, found the packetRADIO prototype and brought it to the TAPR board meeting for show and tell. I ended up with it and brought it home to add to my collection of vintage packet radio TNCs.

Extracted from:

<https://tapr.org/taprs-packetradio/>

*Photo - https://tapr.org/wp-content/uploads/Posting_Images/TAPRs-packetRadio-psr142.jpg
for posterity archiving in Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications.*

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